

# Hinges & Tongs



In this Issue ...

**September-November 2011**

Election Results • ATA Joins with ROPEX in 2013  
Closed Albums- Norm Wright and Mary Moriarty  
RPA at the Owney NYSTM Event • Dues and Membership Cards  
Cutler Mail Chutes Had Rochester Origin • Where in the World  
RPA Finances • Tentative 2012 Meeting Schedule  
We Need YOU! • Upcoming Area Shows • Club Book Sale  
New US Stamps • Next RPA Meetings • Time to Pay Your Dues  
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The Rochester Philatelic Association, PO Box 10206 Brighton Station, Rochester, NY 14610 <http://www.rpastamps.org>

## Election Results!

A total of 34 of the 86 RPA members voted in our last election. The unopposed slate of candidates and the new Constitution passed. Officer terms run through June 30, 2013.

President- Tom Fortunato  
Vice President- Ray Stone  
Recording Secretary- Frank Tritto  
Treasurer- Dave Robinson  
Board- Bob Kingston (3 years to June, 2014)

## ATA Joins with ROPEX in 2013

It's official! The American Topical Association Board has approved a plan to hold their annual gathering, the National Topical Stamp Show, in conjunction with ROPEX on May 17-19, 2013. It also happens to be our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary show.



The ATA is not coming as a visiting society, but will hold an entirely separate show at the Sports Centre at MCC at the same time as ROPEX--on the same floor! Their unique experiment offers challenges and benefits for both groups.

The ATA wants to hold their own exhibition with a completely different set of judges from those used for ROPEX. They also plan to hold a series of seminars and meetings as they

usually do at their yearly conventions. A Presidents Reception and separate awards banquet will be scheduled by them. So what does this all mean for the RPA and ROPEX? ATA personnel will assist with pre-show advertising, show program layout, setup and take-down. More importantly, ATA shares many of the costs ROPEX has paid on its own. They include facilities, table and chair rentals; exhibit frame moving and storage costs; advertising and printing/publishing expenses, etc. These form the bulk of our overall show expenses and total well above \$10,000.

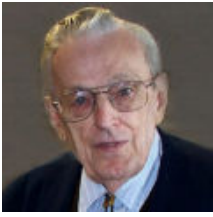
In addition, the ATA will be paying other non-standard ROPEX expenses on their own, such as renting and transporting additional exhibit frames from Buffalo, reserving rooms and space at their show hotel, handling their own transportation and judging expenses, and more.

The ATA will recruit their own dealers and exhibitors at rates identical to what ROPEX will be charging. They anticipate bringing in 15 dealers, making our combined bourse close to 50 dealers from across the US and Canada. A preliminary floor plan for The Sports Centre clearly shows that we have plenty of room for the anticipated 300 exhibit frames and all the dealers.

RPA and ATA members and all exhibitors will receive free entrance to the show should we decide to continue a ROPEX admission fee.

While this means additional work and planning, this is a win-win plan for both organizations. We will see a larger attendance and bourse, and receive a sizable financial contribution towards our typical expenses.

## Closed Albums



Long-time RPA member Norman E. Wright Sr. died peacefully after a 3 month long hospital stay on June 26 with wife Florence and family by his side.

Besides his local philatelic endeavors, Norm was the long-time editor of "The Dispatcher," bimonthly publication of the Casey Jones Railroad Unit of the American Topical Association. He was the author/editor of the 700 page ATA Handbook #138 World Railways Philatelic issued in 2000.



On another sad note, Mary Moriarty, widow of former RPA President Larry Moriarty, died of complications on June 7 at the age of 93. Many will remember her attending RPA functions of all kinds over several decades.

Both complete obituaries can be found online at <http://www.legacy.com>.

## RPA at the Owney NYSMT Event

Members of the RPA took part in the New York State Museum of Transportation "Owney" event on Sunday, July 31 in nearby Rush.



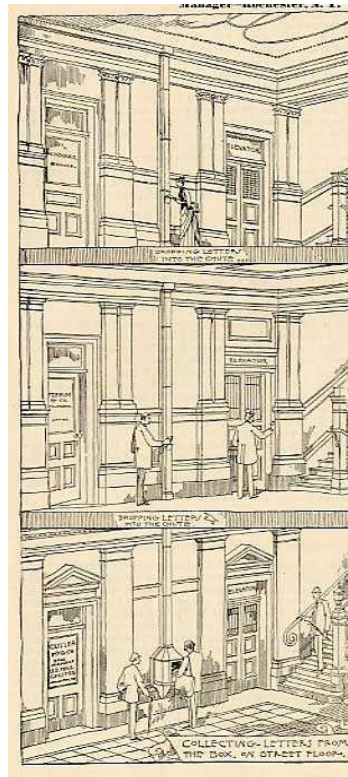
Shown here are Rick Kase and Ray Stone. Tom Fortunato also helped man the table.

## Dues & Membership Cards

Yes, it's that time again to collect your yearly dues. Membership costs remain the same- \$20 single member, \$5 for each additional members residing in the same household. Bring your check payable to "RPA" to a September meeting or mail it to our PO box.

Would you like a membership card for your paid 2011-12 dues? Just mail Tom Fortunato your request along with a SASE. Send it to him at 28 Amberwood Place, Rochester, NY 14626-4166.

## Cutler Mail Chutes had Rochester Origin



A long time ago I seem to remember seeing a mail chute in the old Sibley Building in downtown Rochester. In fact there were several in the city almost a century ago, not surprising when you realize the company that first patented and produced them came from right here.

James G. Cutler of the Cutler Manufacturing Company patented

the collecting system. A chute stretched from the top floor of a building to the main floor where a locked metal box was placed to hold the mail for a postman to collect. Users on each floor had access to a slot through which they could place letters that eventually dropped through the glass chute and into the box placed no less than 2 foot 6 inches from the floor. Glass was used in case letters should block the chute, allowing postal workers to clear the problem area as needed.





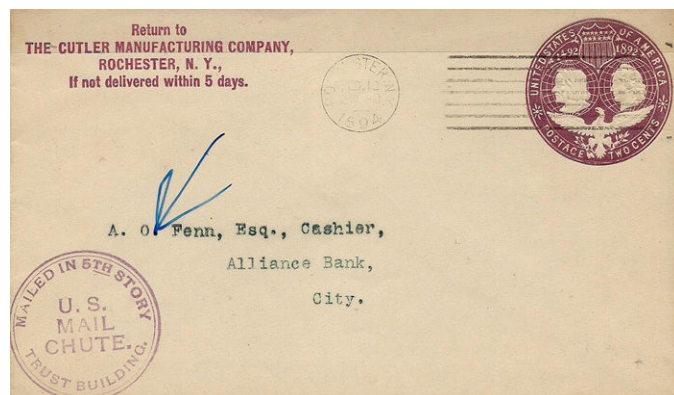
The very first chute was installed in Rochester's Elwood Building seen above in 1884 on the northeast corner of State and Main Street known as "Four Corners." Cutler was the architect of that seven floor structure built in 1879 and named in memory of Isaac R. Elwood, a Western Union executive and city alderman. Its primary tenant and owner was Isaac's heir and prominent city lawyer Frank Worcester Elwood.



Cutler's idea caught on and his company exclusively produced more than 1600 chute systems between 1884 and 1904 and many more afterwards. In 1893 Congress passed a bill that gave the Post Office

Department sole rights to chute construction work and the collection of all mail posted in them.

This drop letter was mailed from the (Union) Trust Building on February 12, 1894 bearing a company-produced auxiliary mark documenting its posting in the mail chute there, home of the renamed Cutler Manufacturing Company and of course advertising their product as well. The 10 story high-rise building is still standing at 19 West Main Street, but whether it still has the mail chute is uncertain.



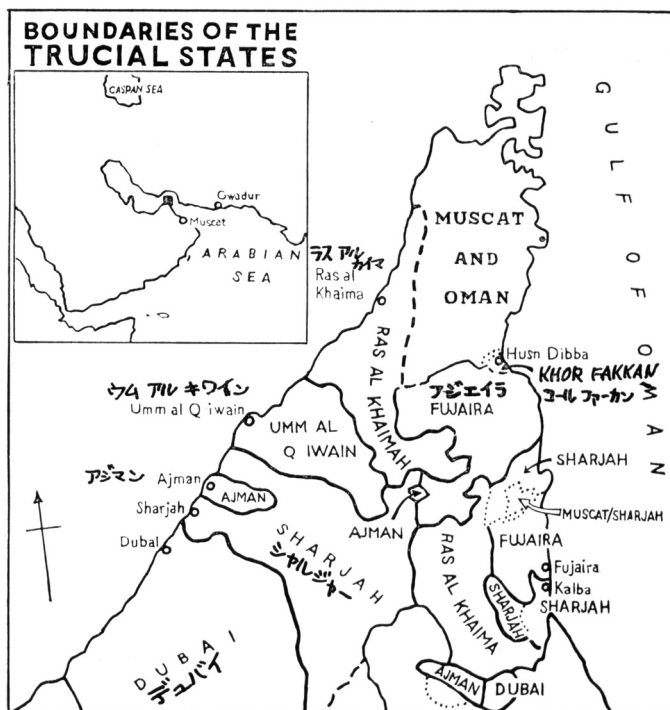
In 2000 the Cutler firm was acquired by the A. F. Florence Manufacturing Corporation of Manhattan, Kansas, "the nation's leading manufacturer of superior quality mailboxes and accessories for centralized distribution and collection of mail and packages. It describes the Cutler Manufacturing Corporation on its web site as, "a venerable century old company that had manufactured postal products for the likes of the Empire State Building and the John Hancock Building."

James Gould Cutler was active in Republican politics and eventually served as the 48th mayor of Rochester from 1904-1907, succeeded by Hiram Edgerton. He donated a bronze statue of Edward Mott Moore, the "Father of the Rochester Park System," to the city in 1926 that is now in Genesee Valley Park. He was also a prominent contributor to the University of Rochester and established the Cutler Lecture Series at William and Mary College running from 1927 to 1944 and 1981 to present.

Former US president William Howard Taft was among the eulogizers at Cutler's funeral a year later in April 1927.

## Where in the World...

You've seen their names in your albums and on your stamps, but what do you know about the "Sand Dune countries" that are now part of the United Arab Emirates? Here's a brief history and a map of the area to help you in your philatelic pursuits.



Discovering the background of how each territory's boundary became so convoluted will take additional research!

## RPA Finances

Here is a snapshot of our RPA budget with figures as of August 1 courtesy of treasurer Dave Robinson. A more detailed report may be requested through him at any time.

### Overall Funds

\$23,106.98	CD's
\$3,552.09	Checking Account
\$978.78	Petty Cash
\$27,637.85	Total On-Hand
-\$1,350.00	ROPEX'12 Deposits
\$26,287.85	NET WORTH

### 2011-12 Club Operations

\$3998.70	Income (CD interest, dues, banquet, donations, etc.)
\$4366.09	Expenses (hall rental, insurance, printing/copying, mailings, banquet, etc.)
\$-367.39	NET LOSS

### ROPEX 2011 Financials

\$15,725.95	Income (dealers/exhibitors, etc.)
\$14,953.83	Expenses
\$772.12	NET PROFIT

## Tentative 2012 Meeting Schedule

Thurs., Jan 12.... "Ireland" by Don Grover  
 Thurs., Feb 9..... Linn's "Pick Your Favorite Stamps" Night  
 Thurs., Mar 8..... RPA Banquet (off-site)  
 Thurs., Mar 22... Stamp Bingo  
 Thurs., Apr 12.... ROPEX Prep Night  
 Thurs., Apr 26.... Kiloware Night  
 Thurs., May 10.. TBA  
 Thurs., May 24.. TBA  
 Thurs., Jun 14... Annual Business Meeting  
 Thurs., Jun 28... Season End Strawberries

Can your presentation fill the remaining spots?  
 Let the RPA officers know if you can.

The territory first gained prominence in the 16<sup>th</sup> century as part of the Ottoman Empire due to its strategic location for shipping across the Arabian Sea and beyond, especially India. Pirating by native inhabitants was commonplace over the next three centuries until the British raided their strongholds in 1819 that led to an initial peace treaty in 1820.

A treaty of protection was entered into by the sheiks of the region with the British in 1892 partly due to the increased assertions of other European governments there. That arrangement was in place until 1968 when the British announced its plans to end the protectorate relationship.

The Trucial States collectively issued a set of 11 definitives in 1961, after which each state started to release its own issues. And did they pump them out! Thousands of sets were produced in huge quantities depicting topical subjects of all kinds. Packet makers in particular put them to use by buying discounted cancelled to order sheets by the hundreds of thousands.

The explosion of stamps formally ended December 2, 1971 when Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Sharjah, and Umm al-Quwain collectively formed the United Arab Emirates, joined by Ras al-Khaima in February, 1972.

## **We Need YOU!**

You've heard it before but it bears repeating: It takes ready and willing members to make the club function! We have the following positions available for volunteers. Which is the right one for you?

**Membership Director-** This person collects dues, calls/emails members in arrears, works with the treasurer when payments are received and keeps all information in an Excel spreadsheet.

**Club Librarian-** Are you an organized person? This person will manage reservations of books in our library and play an integral part in the sale of some of them in the upcoming months.

**Exhibit Frame Committee-** Are you one of our members familiar with the club's exhibit frames? We need to get them in tip-top shape. This includes investigating plexiglass suppliers, purchasing sufficient clips, planning and conceiving new carts for them, etc.

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## **Upcoming Area Shows**

**Sep 11 Syracuse**  
**Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show**  
Holiday Inn- Carrier Circle, exit 35. Hours: 10-5. Bourse.  
Contact: Ed Bailey, 315-452-0593.

**Sep 18 Albany**  
**Capital District Third Sunday Stamp Show**  
Ramada Latham/Albany Airport, 946 New Loudon Rd. Hours: 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Thomas Auletta, 518-899-3027 or George McGowan, 518-479-4396

**Sep 25 Rochester RS Stamp Show**  
North Greece Fireman's Field Pavilion, 3666 Latta Road. Hours: 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Bob Steeb, 585-621-5019  
Email: rsstamp@frontiernet.net

**Oct 1 Olean OLEPEX 2010**  
Sponsored by the Olean Area Stamp Club.  
BPOE Elks Club 491, 2098 West State Street,

*Hinges & Tongs*

Olean. 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Ron Yeager, 814-362-4471  
Email: cry@atlanticcbb.net

**Oct 16 Albany Capital District Stamp Show**  
Ramada Latham/Albany Airport, 946 New Loudon Rd. Hours: 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Pending

**Oct 21-22 Big Flats STEPEX Stamp Show**  
Sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club.  
American Legion Post, 45 South Olcott Rd, I-86 at exit 49. Hours: 10-6, 10-5. Dealers, exhibits, US Postal Service, show cancel and cacheted envelopes, junior activities.  
Email: alatholleyrd@aol.com

**Nov 12-13 Syracuse Syrapex 2011**  
Sponsored by the Syracuse Stamp Club.  
Holiday Inn- Carrier Circle, exit 35. Hours: 10-5. Exhibits, postmarks.  
Contact: Ed Bailey, 315-452-0593.

**Nov 20 Albany**  
**Capital District Third Sunday Stamp Show**  
Ramada Latham/Albany Airport, 946 New Loudon Rd. Hours: 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Thomas Auletta, 518-899-3027 or George McGowan, 518-479-4396

**Nov 20 Rochester RS Stamp Show**  
North Greece Fireman's Field Pavilion, 3666 Latta Road. Hours: 10-4. Bourse.  
Contact: Bob Steeb, 585-621-5019  
Email: rsstamp@frontiernet.net

A complete listing of shows can be found at:  
<http://www.rpastamps.org/rpa-stampshowcalendar.html>

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## **Club Book Sale**

Phase I of our club's philatelic library, a complete inventory, is now complete. We simply need to free up shelf and storage space, so Phase II, the sale of some of them is about ready. Check out the club web site to see what we have, or write to our PO box and include a #10 SASE with \$1 for a list.



## New US Stamps



September 16

**Black Heritage Series- Barbara Jordan**

Forever (44 ¢) pane of 20

September (date unknown)

**Romare Bearden (4 designs)**

Forever (44 ¢) pane of 16

September (date unknown)

**Save Vanishing Species**

Forever (44 ¢ + 11¢) Tiger semi-postal

September (date unknown)

**Lady Liberty and American Flag (2 designs)**

Forever (44 ¢) booklet of 20

October 13

**Madonna and Child by Raphael**

Forever (44 ¢) 44 ¢ booklet of 20

**Holiday Baubles (4 designs)**

Forever (44 ¢) booklet of 20, ATM pane of 18

October 14

**Hanukkah**

Forever (44 ¢) pane of 20

October 14

**Kwanzaa**

Forever (44 ¢) pane of 20

## Next RPA Meetings

Thur., Sept 8..... What I Did Philatelically This Summer/Welcome Back

Thur., Sept 22..... "APS Stamp Cruises" by Bill Arthur

Thur., Oct 13..... "Birds on Stamps" by John Babbitt

Thur., Oct 27..... "Everyone-A-Dealer" Night

Thur., Nov 10..... "A Look at Christmas Seals" by Florence Wright

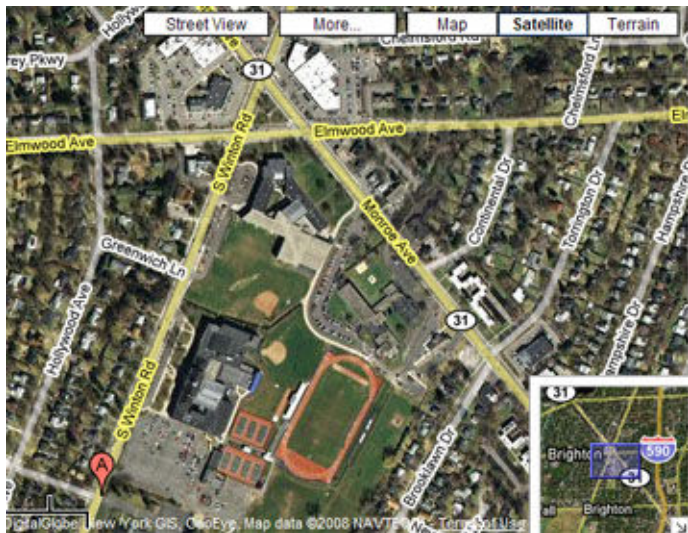
Thur., Dec 8..... Live Auction (bring up to 5 lots per member) and Holiday Bring-A-Gift/Get-A-Gift \$5 Exchange

## The Rochester Philatelic Association

**PO Box 10206 Brighton Station**

**Rochester, NY 14610-0206**

RPA Meetings are at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church  
1200 Winton Rd South, just south of Brighton High School



*Did you know...*

The Rochester, NY  
Post Office was first  
established on  
November 19, 1812?

## Time to Pay Your 2011-12 Dues!

Unless you're a life member, or have already done so, your dues are due! Check the mailing label. Forward your \$20 check made payable to "Rochester Philatelic Association" to our PO box above, or bring it to the next RPA meeting.

**We can always use articles for upcoming Hinges & Tongs issues.**

Email Tom at [stampmf@frontiernet.net](mailto:stampmf@frontiernet.net)